

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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17 11
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 EB-11 SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04

NIC-01 SAJ-01 NSF-04 DRC-01 /163 W
----- 124048

R 301047Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8990
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION BERLIN
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17243

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, GW, UR, UK, FR, US, WB
SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SOVIET PROTEST ON ENVIRONMENTAL
OFFICE

REF: (A) STATE 228697; (B) BONN 16661

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES PROMPT, POSITIVE RESPONSE TO PROPOSED TEXT SUBMITTED REFTEL B OF ALLIED REPLY TO SOVIETS REGARDING LOCATION BERLIN OF FRG ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE. UNFORTUNATELY, TEXT NOT ACCEPTED BY LONDON, WITH RESULT THAT BONN GROUP REPS HAVE AGAIN DISCUSSED MATTER AND HAVE AGREED ON FOLLOWING TEXT FOR SUBMISSION TO CAPITALS:

BEGIN TEXT 1. I REFER TO YOUR COMMUNICATION OF OCTOBER 29, 1973 ABOUT THE LOCATION IN THE WSB OF THE PROPOSED FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY.

2. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BRITISH, FRENCH AND US AUTHORITIES IN BERLIN EXPLAINED THE ALLIED POSITION ON THIS SUBJECT TO THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOVIET

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AUTHORITIES ON OCTOBER 8, 1973. THE ALLIED AUTHORITIES

DO NOT ACCEPT THAT THERE WAS EVER ANY UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE FOUR POWERS "ON THE REDUCTION OF WHAT IS CALLED THE FEDERAL PRESENCE" IN THE WSB WHICH COULD BE RELEVANT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OR LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED AGENCY IN THOSE SECTORS. NO SUCH UNDERSTANDING IS REFLECTED IN THE QA AND ITS ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS.

3. THE QA EXPRESSLY PROVIDES THAT THE TIES BETWEEN THE WSB AND THE FRG WILL BE MAINTAINED AND DEVELOPED, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THAT THOSE SECTORS CONTINUE NOT TO BE A CONSTITUENT PART OF THE FRG AND NOT TO BE GOVERNED BY IT. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPOSED AGENCY WOULD BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED PRACTICE AND THIS PROVISION. THE AGENCY WOULD NOT BE ENTITLED TO PERFORM ACTS IN EXERCISE OF DIRECT STATE AUTHORITY OVER THE WSB.

4. THE LOCATION IN THE WSB OF THE PROPOSED AGENCY UNDER THESE CONDITIONS WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE A UNILATERAL CHANGE IN THE SITUATION IN BERLIN. RATHER, IT WOULD BE A MEANS OF DEVELOPING THE TIES BETWEEN THE WSB AND THE FRG IN FULLFILLMENT OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE QA. END TEXT

COMMENT: WHILE THIS TEXT SEEMS TO US TO BE A SLIGHT BACKWARD STEP, WE BELIEVE IT IS ACCEPTABLE AND RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT APPROVE IT.

2. ON TIMING, UK IS PREPARED TO HAVE RESPONSES MADE IN MOSCOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER DECEMBER 5, WHEN FCO STATE SECRETARY ENDS A THREE-DAY VISIT THERE. FRENCH HAVE, AS YET, NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM PARIS, BUT BELIEVE THEY WILL RECEIVE SOME NEXT WEEK. FROM CONVERSATION WITH FRENCH BONN GROUP REP (PAYE) NOVEMBER 29, WE BELIEVE THAT FRENCH EMBASSY HERE IS RECOMMENDING TO THE QUAI THAT REPLY IRRESPECTIVE OF FRG CABINET ACTION BE AUTHORIZED.
HILLENBRAND

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